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INTEROFFICE

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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**SUBJECT** 1. People's Police Unit Prora (1321)  
2. Miscellaneous DDR Economic and OB Information

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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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DO NOT CIRCULATE

The People's Police Unit (Volkspolizeiabteilung) Prora is stationed in Prora (N 55/P 76), Kreis Bergen, on the island of Ruegen. It is housed in large stone structures which were originally intended to be rest homes for the Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (Free German Association of Trade Unions).

The Proa unit comprises about 3,500 men, all of whom are officers and non-commissioned officers. Upon initiation of a draft this unit will be brought up to division strength.

The Prora unit is organized as follows:

- 3 infantry commands (regiments)- Command A  
1 artillery command (regiment) - Command B  
1 AAA section (Flak-Abteilung)  
1 armored section (Panzer-Abteilung)  
1 combat engineer battalion  
1 reconnaissance section (Aufklaerungs-Abteilung)  
1 communications section

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a. Unit Command (Bereitschaftskommando)

- 1) One staff battery, directly ~~under~~ the commander of the unit  
 Unit Commander: Inspector (fnu) Pilz (called "General Wind")  
 Political Officer<sup>1</sup>: People's Police Councillor (VP-Rat) (fnu) Brinkmann  
 First Propagandist: People's Police Commissar (VP-Oberkommissar) (fnu) Gerke  
 Second Propagandist: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Nehls  
 (the propagandists are responsible for working out the political course hours).
- 2) Party Control Commission (Parteikontrollkommission) (PKK)  
 Chief: People's Police Councillor (fnu) Vierkant
- 3) Representatives of the unit commander  
 Representative for Command A: Commissar (fnu) Jaenicke  
 Representative for Command B: Commissar Freitzof Franke (formerly a major in the German artillery and a teacher at the artillery officers' candidate school)  
 Representative for Command C: People's Police Councillor (fnu) Knoepe

4) Staff

Chief of Staff: Commander (fnu) Brueckner  
 First Aide to the Chief of Staff: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Exten  
 Second Aide to the Chief of Staff: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Schmidt  
 Third Aide to the Chief of Staff: None at present; the former aide was dismissed as incapable.

b. Infantry Commands1) Personnel

CO of the First Command: People's Police Councillor (VP - Oberrat) (fnu) Herr  
 Political Officer for the First Command: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Lewerenz  
 CO of the Second Command: People's Police Councillor (VP-Rat) (fnu) Wolf  
 Political Officer for the Second Command: People's Police Councillor (fnu) Muhl  
 CO of the Third Command: People's Police Commissar (VP-Oberkommiss.) (fnu) Lenz  
 Political Officer for the Third Command: People's Police Councillor (fnu) Heinrich

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2) Organization and Equipment

Each infantry command is made up of three battalions, each of which is divided into three companies. Each company contains three platoons (Zuege) and each platoon contains three squads (Gruppen). The strength of a squad is 1:9. Besides the above-mentioned three battalions, each infantry command has:

- 1 mortar battery equipped with 12 x 81 mm. mortars of Russian origin
- 1 antitank artillery battery equipped with 12 x 35 mm. artillery pieces, long-barrel (ueberlang) of Russian origin.

The Infantry units (Einheiten) have the following arms:

carbines	38	(7.62 mm. of Russian origin)
submachine guns	41	(6.62 mm. of Russian origin)
machine guns DP		(7.62 mm. of Russian origin)
machine guns 08-Maxim		(7.62 mm. of Russian origin)
pistols		(7.62 mm.)

c. Artillery CommandPersonnel

CO: People's Police Commissar (VP-Oberkomm.) (fnu) Bollingw

Political Officer: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Neumann

Organization and Equipment

The artillery command is composed of one headquarters' battery (Fuehrungsbatterie) with a surveying unit, etc., and the following six batteries:

Batteries 1, 2, and 3:	Each composed of three platoons; each platoon has four 76 mm. guns (Ratsch-Bum) (sic)
Battery 4:	Equipped with 4 x 122 mm. or 152 mm. howitzers
Battery 5:	An antitank artillery unit equipped with 12 x 75 mm. or 122 mm. guns
Battery 6:	A mortar unit equipped with 12 x 81 mm. or 120 mm. heavy mortars.

d. AAA CompanyPersonnel

CO: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Berndt

Political Officer: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Lehmann

Organization and Equipment:

The company is comprised of 6 batteries and is equipped with 36 guns (20 mm., 35 mm., and 88 mm., long barrel), all of Russian origin.

e. Armored Section (Panzerabteilung)Personnel

CO: People's Police Councillor (fnu) Reimann

Political Officer: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Kehl

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Equipment

An unspecified number of T-34's and assault guns (Sturmgeschuetze) of Russian origin.

f. Combat Engineer Battalion

Personnel

CO: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Voth

Political Officer: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Manesch

Equipment

Unspecified amounts of blasting powder, bridge-building equipment, and other combat engineer equipment, all of Russian origin.

g. Reconnaissance Section

Personnel

CO: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Polzien

Political Officer: Has been changed

Equipment

Russian-make armored scout cars

h. Communications Section

Personnel:

CO: People's Police Commissar (fnu) Fink

Political Officer: Has been changed

Equipment

Field telephones (Feldfernsprecher) of American origin

i. Field Hospital

Chief: Commissar (Unter-Komm.)(fnu) Grueninger

Miscellaneous Economic and OB Information

4. The net industry located in Schlotheim (M 52/J 09) in Kreis Muehlhausen/Thuringia has received the order to manufacture 8,000 camouflage nets (Tarnnetze). The nets are to be 6 x 6 meters with a mesh width of 50 cm.; they are to be painted green with strips of cloth (Stoffstreifen). From June to October 1952, about 1,500 pieces are to be delivered.
5. The cutting off (Abschnuerung) of the S-Bahn (Berlin's municipal railway) and the rail ring (Umgehungsbahn) was supposed to have been completed at the latest by 1 August 1952. Experts have stated, however, that material shortages would make it impossible to meet this deadline.
6. The Heinkel plant at the Oranienburg (N 53/Z 67) airfield is supposed to be rebuilt. The necessary background research has been conducted and the Russians have allegedly declared that they are prepared to return the machine tools which they formerly dismantled. The Russians do not intend at the present to put the airfield back into

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operation. The airfield and the buildings of the "Schemm-Schule" which belong to it, along with the houses on Breitscheidstrasse (formerly Ernst Heinkelstrasse), are to be placed at the disposal of the People's Police (Volkspolizei) and built up as a Police Flying School. Preliminary work on this project had already begun as of 7 July 1952. At that time only a small company of Russian Air Force soldiers were at the field, performing guard duty. With the exception of the Heinkel plant, the area was being cleared of scrap, including scrapped German and Russian planes. The scrap was hauled by truck to the DHZ Schrott- und Eisenswalde (N 53/V 08) Oranienburg office (Nebenstelle) collection point on Sachsenhausenstrasse, directly on the road going toward Norden. Iron scrap was being loaded onto rail cars on the spur line (Gleisenschluss) and then transported to VVB Vesta Stahl- und Walzwerk Riesa, VVB Vesta Eisen- und Stahlwerk Groeditz, and VVB Vesta Stahl- und Walzwerk Hennigsdorf. Light metals, on the other hand, were allegedly being transported to the USSR.

- 25X1 1. Comment: At every level the CO and the Political Officer have equal authority and equal responsibility.

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